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A
FEW THOUGHTS
ON AN
U N I O N,
WITH
SOME OBSERVATIONS
UPON
MR. WELD'S PAMPHLET
OF
"NO UNION."

Addressed to the

YEOMENRY OF DUBLIN,

By A WELLWISHER OF IRELAND.

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A
F E W T H O U G H T S
ON AN
U N I O N.

AN Union, or no Union with Britain, is the important Question that at present interests the Minds of the Public, and that must rouse the anxiety of every true Patriot, I will not say Irish alone, for surely the Interest, the Peace, the Prosperity of Britain and Ireland, can never be separated; and they are neither well-wishers or friends to any of the Countries that endeavour to do so.

I mean not in these few Sheets to attempt to decide with obstinacy upon so important a
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subject, nor will any wise or moderate Man do so, until the Terms held out by Britain are known, passion may suggest, but reason cannot argue, till these truths are fully understood. I mean not to argue step by step upon the different points of a Subject not yet clearly known, in so doing I would expose myself, and mislead others. I do not hope to convert those that have already wrote with too much passion upon the Subject. But I ardently wish, and am not without a faint Hope, that I may be able to advance something that will help to sooth that public Agitation, which the inflammatory Writings that are now so eagerly scattered amongst the Inhabitants of this City, are so calculated to raise. My wish, my design is to warn the Public against being led off by the prejudice, the passion of those Men, who at this anxious Period are so busy in exciting want of confidence, and disgust against every Measure, every Offer, suggested by Britain; they write to inflame the ignorant, not convince the well informed. It will perhaps be said by some, this is not the Language of Moderation; but what can be said after reading that wonderful Production, intituled "No Union,"

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wrote by a Gentleman, who from his Profession, his Abilities, might have been expected to express himself in a very different Style, who would certainly be much offended at being reckoned ignorant, or ill-informed of historical facts, relating to Britain and Ireland, or of the present situation of any part of either Countries;—If this gentleman is not himself ignorant, what then does his writings mean? why are they fraught with so much Misinformation, Misconstruction, and Violence? Surely to mislead the ignorant, and rouse a spirit of revolt, against every thing that reason, humanity, or religion can suggest, and O, that the voice of these friends to Mankind could be heard, could penetrate the hearts of the People of Ireland! Then might we hope the *cannons roar* would cease, the *carnage of war* rage no more, that *poverty, ignorance, and discontent*, would vanish by degrees, from the *fertile Island of Ireland!* But I must not allow these pleasing thoughts to carry me away, as if I were running off from the Author and the Pamphlet of *No Union!* though I must confess, I am unwilling to forsake those soothing reflections, and return to such *turbulent company*, and to the

disagreeable business of contradicting the Author's assertions upon various points, yet I trust I am no *coward*, though I hate *caviling*, the love of truth, and earnest desire for *public peace and prosperity*, urges me on, unaccustomed to write, either for *profit or pleasure*, I fear I may be often incorrect and irregular in my style; but as I feel, I write, from a wish to promote the happiness, and to save from error, the Inhabitants of this City; I throw myself upon their mercy, and if even they should *sneer* at some parts of this composition, yet if they with candour attend to the truths, stated in others, my design will be completed, my wish satisfied.—I must again say, that when reading Mr. Weld's Pamphlet, I am more and more astonished, when I see a Man in his line, advance assertions with regard to the past and present situation of Scotland, a country not so distant, or unknown to the inhabitants of this, as to allow the possibility of what he states with regard to it, being in the least credited. Surely it is no good account of his cause, when he has recourse to misrepresentation and false colouring: he seems not to trust to the soundness of his argument, but endeavours to dazzle the reader,

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and like a skilful veteran of the law, to throw what light he pleases upon the subject.

Let us cast our eyes towards this same wretched country of Scotland, that Mr. Weld speaks of with so much pity and contempt, and endeavours to recollect a few parts of the past and present situation of it. History informs us of her long, her ancient race of kings, of her brave, her imperious, and restless nobility, whose wild ambition, at times, stopped not, till they had dipped their daggers in the Royal blood!—England, a part of the same island, at a very early period, became a Powerful, and enlightened nation, who at one time carried with success its arms into the very heart of the Continent. Who does not remember with admiration and surprize, the height of military glory, that under Edwards the First and Third, England attained. During those interesting periods, England was sometimes the friend and ally of Scotland, but more frequently its strong and inveterate enemy; Scotland still continued the struggle, and notwithstanding the intrigues, the bold attacks of England, led on by her warlike kings, long maintained her independence, and

and retained her monarchs, till at length the Stewart line, not shaken from their throne, by a successful enemy, but owing to a concurrence of different circumstances, was removed from the Scotch to the English throne. The Stewart line, during the contest with England, had been often obliged to seek the assistance of France, and in so doing, they opened a way for her in future to carry on her designs and intrigues, which she for a great length of time continued to do, and the effect of which was long felt. Nothing but the Scotch, now finding their monarch fixed upon the English throne, could have made them look towards that country with any degree of complacency, but as the reformation was extended over most part of the kingdom, and the Presbeterian, or Puritanical religion pretty much established, they parted with their ancient kings, whom they had found too much attached to the Roman Catholic religion, with less regret. In Charles the First's reign, they joined the Parliament in endeavouring to restrain the overgrown prerogative of the Crown, and we all know the successful struggle they maintained, in securing to their posterity, the free exercise of their favourite form of religion, and their
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established Church.—We cannot be surprized at Scotland long resisting an Union with her ancient enemies, the English, although, in so doing, she was blind to her own interest. The constant war with England had depopulated the country, drained it of money, kept back its civilization, its commerce and manufactures; in short, Scotland before the Union, was, from these various circumstances, a proud, a poor, infeebled nation. The Stewart line, when excluded from the British throne, called again upon France, its ancient ally, to espouse their cause, and urged her to intrigue in Scotland in such a manner as to raise commotions, in order to further their restoration to the English throne. To these machinations may be attributed the following rebellions of 1715 and 1745, not from the Scotch suffering from the effects of an Union with England, (as is erroneously asserted by Mr. Weld,) although it was no wonder if they feared at first they would have done so. Governed by the same kings, it was found that the connection between the two kingdoms was not strict enough. Scotland was still open to French intrigue; it felt not sufficiently the influence of the mild laws, the commerce, the learning

ing of England; it was neither enlightened nor civilized enough to seek for that benefit; but after the Union was fully established and understood, the good effects were soon felt and acknowledged. By degrees religious animosities were softened, agriculture and manufactures introduced from England; and what has been the consequence? why, Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland, since the Union, is increased one-half in size, and more than one-third in population, and notwithstanding a long and expensive war, the Baltick trade at this period is carried on with the greatest spirit and success, at her port of Leith; the lands in East and Mid-Lothian, highly cultivated, and, indeed, over the whole Low Lands of Scotland a plentiful harvest repays the industrious labour of the husbandman, the greatest part of which is rich and beautiful, and has a variety of scenery rarely to be met with. The manufactures of the country are going on in the most flourishing manner; at Glasgow and Paisley beyond conception. Paisley, from being a small and insignificant town, is now inhabited by upwards of 30,000 people; Glasgow, I believe, comes next in commercial rank to Liverpool: All over the West of
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Scotland the same rapid increase of trade and manufactures; the cotton to the greatest extent, and woollen and linen with much spirit, consequently there is found the quickest sale imaginable for coal, which is found in most parts of the Low Countries, and industriously worked. Doubtless, in the island of Ireland there must be much coal found, if diligently looked for, this the industrious manufacturer would occasion to be done. The Highlands of Scotland, where agriculture cannot reach, now experiences the blessed effects of an Union with England; her lofty heath-clad hills are thrown into sheep farms; the attention which has been paid by the Scots Members of Parliament to the woollen manufacture, is well known, and felt with gratitude by their constituents and countrymen; other parts of the Highlands are more favourable for rearing and feeding black cattle; this is assiduously attended to by the inhabitants, and it is amazing to see the number of herds, or droves, they take to the English market, where that particular breed is much esteemed. The Highlanders no longer look upon England with the eyes of distrust and hatred; those sentiments which for-

merly led them into all the miseries and violence of rebellion. They return to their own country with hearts filled with gratitude to a kind Providence, for the free, the confidential intercourse that now subsists with England and them, and for all the comforts that flow from it, they can comfortably clothe and feed their families; those families that are now the healthy nurseries of the British army, from whence so many brave and steady soldiers are drawn. Never again will rebellion be seen to rear her hedious form; upon the now peaceful mountains of Caledonia, her loyal sons now flock to the standard of their King, and confess that the British Lion has proved the generous friend and protector of the Scottish Thistle.

In hopes that this Pamphlet may fall into the hands of some of the patriotic Gentlemen of this Country, of whom I make no doubt there are numbers, I will give a short account of the character and exertions of a valuable man, who has had an active hand in spreading industry and wealth over the Western parts of Scotland, which will prove how ill-founded Mr. Weld's opinion is, with regard

gard to the British manufacturer, when he says, "His exertions can but add little to the happiness and prosperity of Ireland."

Mr. Dale, a native of the West of Scotland, does not himself blush to confess, that his birth was low, his circumstances very limited, at the beginning of life. He kept, I believe, a small shop in the town of Glasgow; by industry and attention, he gained a few hundreds; he was encouraged from the prosperity of all around him to venture into the cotton manufactory, he then gained thousands, but not to accumulate them, that he might in future riot in all the luxuries of wealth; "No," says he, "I have now the ability, I will now try how I can most benefit my country, perhaps some of my fellow-creatures, who are pining in want—who are lost in ignorance." The cotton works he now has are numberless, and to them he has drawn thousands. The poor man in the country where he places them, who was before weighed down, and almost unable to support a numerous family, now finds his children, the source of his greatest riches, every infant from five years old brings some shillings

a week to add to the comfort and growing wealth of their parents.

“ Shall I,” says Mr. Dale, “ who have fed and clothed them, neglect their minds? No—I will give them religious instructions;” and at every manufactory he has well-informed teachers, who instruct the children—who teach different schools six days every week, and on the seventh a Sunday school; he allows every child so much time to attend them, and although it looses him so much of their work, yet ultimately, he knows he is no sufferer from it, as they in general turn out attentive, diligent workers, who are saved from that dissipation which is so apt to creep in amongst such a collection of people. Two or three such men as this in Ireland would be a greater blessing than all the commerce of the East.

There are a few words more I must address to the Patriots of Ireland (Roman Catholic as well as Protestant) with regard to parochial schools, which have been found of the greatest use in Scotland. There is a school fixed in every parish, however small; the proprietor
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of every estate, according to its value and extent, pays a certain proportion of the salary of the school-master; this comes to be but a very small matter indeed, as the salary does not often exceed 30l. or 40l.—this enables the master to give all the children of the parish education for almost nothing, and it is the duty of the Clergyman to see that the teacher is a man of some information and strict morality; many of them teach Latin, all of them reading, writing, and arithmetick. I need hardly mention the beneficial effects of this; it must easily be imagined, and it is certainly one of the great causes of the difference between the Scotch and the Irish peasantry; but for this, the plenty of cheap spirits to be met with in Scotland, as well as Ireland, would destroy the morality and happiness of the lower ranks. Scotland, now no more a poor and infeebled country, worn out with the contest of her ambitious Nobles, and continual wars with England, has something more valuable to boast of than her long race of Kings and ancient Nobility—she has her prosperity, her industry and morality, the learning and liberality of the higher ranks, the purity of her Clergy, her agriculture flourishing

flourishing under the hands of her laborious husbandmen ; themselves and family comfortably clothed and fed, looking up with affection and respect to the proprietor of the lands they farm, the master to whom with chearfulness and regularity they pay their rents. She can boast of a Capital, the one half of which, for the beauty and elegance of its buildings, cannot be surpassed, and I believe is not equalled by any in Europe ; a learned and flourishing Bar, a respectable Bench of Judges, an University, blessed with professors, famed for their talents and eminence, she can boast of a Mansfield, a Dundas, a Smith, a Robertson, a Blair, a Duncan, I would say an Erskin, but, alas ! he has blasted his Country's hopes, that looked to him as one of her greatest ornaments and supports ; he has dimmed those bright rays that darted from his brilliant imagination, refined, enriched with all that learning and talents could bestow.

Having now given a faithful description of the present situation of Scotland, I think I have sufficiently proved how false the representations and assertions of Mr. Weld are with regard to that country, consequently
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how false his conclusions; if so in his first, the others may be found equally erroneous. In truth we will soon see the whole of this wonderful—this inflammatory delusion, vanish in smoke, before the eye of Reason. The Scotſman ſurrounded with every comfort that proſperity and ſecurity can beſtow, can now himſelf ſmile at the malicious ſatire of a Churchill, the blindneſs of a churliſh Johnſton, at the ſame time that he recollects with gratitude, the bleſſed effects of an *Union* with *England*. When France firſt began to ſcatter her vile emiſſaries over the face of the earth, in order to light the torch of diſcord and rebellion in every kingdom, Scotland was not neglected, and a buſy work was begun; happily her ſchemes were defeated. In a country, where there is religious toleration, where every comfort is enjoyed, where the lower ranks are taught to read their Bible, the People can ſoon be recalled to their duty; their Bible teaches them to fear their God, honour their King, forgive their Enemies, and to love their Neighbours as themſelves, and this knowledge muſt ever be the greateſt ſecurity for the peace of every country.

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With regard to an Union of Ireland with Britain, we can only at present (when the particular terms are not perfectly understood) take it in a general view. But surely it appears reasonable, that when once one country is governed by the King of another, these two countries cannot be too closely, or strictly, united. The nominal independence of either must ever prove, like French freedom, the source of every misery in the country that looks up to it with enthusiasm: So it proved in the past and present history of Ireland; but I trust, that before many years, the enjoyment of every real good that prosperity, *security*, and *peace* can bestow, will make her look back to this phantom idol with contempt. I certainly differ very much in opinion with Mr. Weld, when he says, "That an all-wise Providence has placed a sea between the two countries, as an effectual barrier to a perfect Union;" on the contrary, the local and internal situation of Ireland, shews plainly an all-wise God had determined otherwise. See where Ireland lies, almost embosomed in the shores of Britain, which, thanks be to God, he has placed between France and Ireland. If we look into her history,

tory, we will find her in early times governed by provincial Kings, who, in general, owned one superior; in short, a form of government, from which much contest and confusion must proceed. The consequence of which was, she never possessed sufficient energy, political importance, or a fleet, to enable her to stand by herself; consequently, she fell a more easy prey to the Kings of a powerful island, possessed of *all* these advantages.—Henry the Second of England, by interfering in the disputes of her petty Princes, gained an ascendancy, which in a little time, enabled the Kings of England to annex Ireland to their Crown. It was then Ireland lost her true independence to England, for any thing she has since possessed, I have already proved, was only nominal and destructive; and pray what had she to lose at that early period, that ought to be valued, or brought in comparison with a connection formed with a powerful nation? Nothing but a confused, a weak, and turbulent form of government. Britain has ever had the superiority in her navy over every other nation; France has never been able to equal her in that great object; surely it was most beneficial and expedient for Ire-

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land to be connected with a nation like Britain, the Kings of which had early discovered that the safety and glory of their island depended upon the greatness of her navy; from such a connection her shores will be protected, her commerce extended, and she possessed of every means to civilize and enrich herself. But has Ireland benefited from such a connection so much as was to have been expected? No—the history of her cruel rebellion, her bloody massacres, during Charles the First's reign, and all the various, hedious forms rebellion at different periods, has assumed in this Country, is a melancholy proof she has not. The British Government, by granting a free trade and toleration of religion, hoped more effectually to secure her peace and prosperity, but still parties were ever rising up in different quarters of the kingdom, harrassing and destroying each other; partial disturbances were ever felt; nor did the prosperity or riches of one part of the Country keep the other quiet, in spite of all the commerce enjoyed, still the peasantry of Ireland were neglected, poor, ignorant, naked, ready to be roused to rebellion by every foreign and domestic fiend that sets himself to
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the diabolical task. The Noblemen, and Gentlemen, *too often* turn with disgust from that country, where they cannot dwell in security, and instead of trying to remedy in some degree the evil, (which they fear is beyond their abilities) many of them, for a length of time, go into another land, into which they draw the rents of their estate—their property sub-set from one man to another—the poor farmer is left to the mercy of an unfeeling tax-man—is often unable, as well as unwilling, to pay his rent. Will an Union (you ask) remove those evils? Yes, certainly, it will. Since you were, at a very early period, connected with a powerful nation; since Providence seems to have determined it should be so; since the Kings of England have so long been your Kings, connect yourself *more closely* with her, that you may be more under the influence of her mild Constitution and manners, that she may be enabled more perfectly to protect you from French intrigue, which has been so busy for these several years, in sowing the rancorous seeds of rebellion over this unhappy land, which so lately plunged you into all the horrors and miseries of civil war. Britain wishes not,

as Mr. Weld rashly and ungenerously asserts, to humble you as a rival—her design is to raise you to the same state of prosperity and civilization as herself. She acknowledges by so doing, she would promote her own interest, as well as yours, which never should be separated—that as you have one King, so you should have one Parliament, where the ablest men, of both nations, would consult and determine upon the measures to be followed, which will most effectually tend to sooth religious differences, and introduce information and comfort amongst the lower ranks. Until this is attended to by the Nobility and Gentlemen of Ireland, in vain will commerce be extended;—it is like laying manure on a field overrun with weeds; the internal evils grow and strengthen with the richness of a country in the situation of this. “What,” says Mr. Weld, “is the intention of the Minister, in forcing an Union upon the People of Ireland?” May I in return ask how he already knows that the bulk of the People are against it, or that if they were so, the Minister would force it upon them? This is taking much for granted, and merely for the sake of saying something upon the subject that will raise a spirit

spirit of disgust and indignation; but notwithstanding all that he or others may say upon the subject, there is little doubt, that whatever measures are determined upon—whatever offers held out to this Country—it will be from a design—a hope—to prevent a return of all those miseries it has so lately experienced;—to endeavour to do away political and religious differences—to endeavour to pour into the very heart of your Country that wealth which will extend itself to *every rank* of the People—will give employment and comfort to the lowest, and thereby security to the higher; then would be no more seen, those wretched thousands, who find themselves possessed of nothing that can soften existence—nothing with hope to look forward to. Who find themselves in the midst of a fertile island, *naked*, ignorant, and miserable, who can have no *eternal hopes*, because they scarcely know of a God and a Heaven, far less the truths that could lead them to them! No more see these herds of miserable creatures, who say, “I can be no worse—I may be better than at present;” therefore, they are ever ready to rise at the signal of every villain, whose wild ambition, or discontent,

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hurries him into a treacherous connection with France, who hatches in his corrupted bosom, the vile conspiracy—the bloody massacre! yes, they are ever ready at the call of these more enlightened villains, to raise the blood-stained banner on the Towers of your wealthy Capital, to dip their butchering hand in the blood of its citizens, and lay its proudest piles of architecture low:—it is from this you have to fear your empty streets, your desolated dwellings, your absentees, your depopulation, not from an Union with England; it will alone give security; it will remove all the evils complained of; it will heal all the wounds, still bleeding, from the late lamentable civil contests. Mr. Weld endeavours to prove, that it has been all along the policy of England to keep down the trade of Ireland. He gives a note from Rapine's History upon the subject. If such has been the policy of Britain, let me ask you, Mr. Weld, let me ask you, or any honest Irishman, can there be advanced a more striking argument in favour of an Union? You will no longer be a rival in trade (says Britain) that I fear, but a partner an equal, and although you share in my risks, you also share in all my profits;

profits; your future prosperity, will now be my prosperity; your riches, my riches; your peace, your glory, mine also. The generous, enlightened British merchant will say, "I am halving my profits with our brothers in a sister kingdom;" but, ultimately, what tends to heighten their prosperity will prove the prosperity, the safety, the glory of all; and with such spacious bays, such ports, a soil and climate, what height of prosperity in trade and manufactures, may not Ireland reach! Her towns, on every coast, will in a few years, equal the most flourishing mercantile towns in England, and they will pour wealthy into the very heart of the kingdom. This will be the most effectual method to make up for that cruel depopulation that took place in some parts of the country so lately. The bond of Union once fixed, we will see the manufacturer, the merchant, the speculator, flock in numbers to this fertile island, the hopes of future wealth, will remove all fears. In the towns where there will be little risque, they will first commence their operations, and by degrees branch out. . Soon will we see, in place of these forlorn wretches we now deplore, these twenty-thousand

land that lies stretched on the field of rebellion, twice twenty-thousand of industrious, useful members of society, who, by their success, will encourage others to follow their example; say not, that where manufactures flourish, agriculture is neglected, the manufactures must be fed, and where they and their families are, the farmer will find a ready sale for all his crops, an inducement to quicken his exertions and double his labour. He will see in his neighbour, the English manufacturer, a busy, contented man, who is able to give his children that education, he himself received. The Irish peasant will see the happy effects, and seek for information himself, and for his family. These new settlers will increase the number of Protestant inhabitants, religious differences will be forgot in the pursuits of wealth and industrious labour, instead of rancour against each other, they will look up with gratitude to Heaven, for the happy change in their condition, peace in their land; a land which now the Peer, the Gentleman, will no more wish to forsake, and when the duty of some carries them away, they will with satisfaction, think of their return to their fertile fields, their flourishing villages,

villages, their safe and stately mansions, surrounded with a busy peasantry. We may then hope to see, where now the eye wanders with fearful glance over the desolated plain, where only is to be seen the rubbish of a burned *up-house*, or plundered village; the *growing town*, the *busy thousands*. There will be no absentees, but those whom their duty calls away from a country in such a state as this. The Union will create a mutual interest and confidence between the high and the low, the Gentleman * will be busied in the great work of forwarding the industrious exertions of others, which will turn out at last to his own advantage. An Union would create a mutual reliance and affection between these two Countries, that have been so long, and still are connected. Instead of distrust and hatred, witness Scotland and England, betwixt whom so perfect a confidence subsists. An Union betwixt them was a more unnatural circumstance. Long led on against each other by rival Kings, to bloody wars, no wonder their hearts revolted against each

* The Proprietor of the land upon which the manufacturer fixes, must be much benefited and enriched.

other. It is only so lately as in James the Sixth's reign they ceased to be enemies. How much more rational an Union with Ireland, whose Kings have been the same, whose connection has subsisted with England ever since the reign of Henry the Second. Who is it, that would not wish for a perfect confidence, instead of that cruel distrust, which has occasioned all the past and present miseries of Ireland, and which, if persevered in, will *shake the connection*, and perhaps at last occasion Ireland to fall an easy prey to the designs of France; then would the irresistible navy of Britain appear no longer the powerful, the vigilant protector of your shores, and your trade, but a desperate foe and exasperated enemy, who, though she would certainly chastise the deceitful invaders, yet could not prevent the miseries that to you would ensue. The French, obliged to abandon the island, would leave it in such a wretched state as would move the pity, the forgiveness of even *offended Briton*; then, and then only, would be felt an humbling dependance. France holds forth to you the promise of independence and freedom from every restraint; yes, she would free you from any religion, law or security
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you possess, drain you of your wealth by frightful contributions, then *leave you* to the butchering fury of that misled *party* in this country, who would find themselves so cruelly disappointed in all their hopes. In short, France while offering the fraternal embrace would stab you to the heart, as she has done every country that by deceit she has drawn into her power. Look to the plains of Belgium and all the countries round, how they struggle to free themselves from the Grip of these cruel tyrants, whose scourge they have so severely felt; the struggle perhaps has reached the heart of France, perhaps ere long will prove the destruction of that frightful monster, the French Republic, that has so long disturbed the peace of an astonished world; you will perhaps say, this is the imperious language of Britain!—no, it is the language of sincerity, proceeding from a steady consideration of different facts and circumstances relating to this country, and from a wish, as a sincere friend to Ireland, to recall your attention to them; as such I entreat you not to allow yourselves to be led off by the offended pride of a *heated imagination*, from the attentive consideration of what so much concerns your interest.

As to taxes, that Hydra with a thousand Heads, held up to terrify a land ; Ireland united with England will never be so heavily taxed as Britain has been during a desperate war, which we may now hope is drawing near a conclusion ; yet what has been the effects of this ? has it proved her ruin ? has it hurt her trade ? no, the merchant thrives, the farmer gets a reasonable price for his grain, the poor have plenty of bread and are content ; the value of land never was higher in England and Scotland ! the taxes are scarce felt by the poor ; the weight of them are laid most wisely upon them who can bear them, those who possess eminent wealth, a variety of mansions, equipages, servants, horses, &c. The taxes perhaps fortunately suppress *those* overgrown fortunes, *that* pride, dissipation and luxury which is at last the ruin of every prosperous state ; so speaks the degenerate sons of Italy, the desolated amphitheatres of Rome. Mr. Weld remarks, the situation of England, is different from what it was at the period of an Union with Scotland ; yes, it is different, the whole state of Europe is changed ; there has been a convulsion all over the world, which has been felt by every kingdom, shaken some, *laid others low*—yet BRITAIN STANDS, is seen in
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the violence of the surrounding storm to raise her triumphant head, and like her Glorious Navy, no waves can shake her courage! no thunder from the cannons of her united enemies, impair her glory! she checks the rapid progress of victorious France; in near, in distant seas destroys her fleets, defeats her designs, even her operations upon the African shores she disconcerts! The voice of her triumphant navy, her cannons roar; raises the drooping spirit of a wondering world, and rallies the kingdoms of the earth! France *trembles*—her many tyrants, who has sought to molest, destroy, and swallow up every surrounding nation, stands *tottering* on the brink of ruin. Nations, who have been dazzled with past victory, will now no longer submit to their wild projects—their tyrannizing spirit; they have no liberty; they enjoy no peace. Flanders, Holland is in an uproar! Paris, perhaps, ere long, will be in *flames*! Is this the nation that the rash, the thoughtless Sons of Ireland endeavour to connect their Country with? The nation, whose contributions have humbled and destroyed the Countries, she by deceit or violence, has added to her own. Britain has had a severe struggle—a long and grievous contest;

contest; but she rises superior to her trials; her fortitude is strengthened; her virtue refined by exertion. This is the situation of Britain at this period, when she wishes for an Union with you—an Union which I have endeavoured to convince you, would remove your evils, and heal your wounds—would add new cities, and increase the prosperity of those you have; would scatter plenty o'er a *smiling land*. Dublin, the great metropolis of a flourishing and enlightened Country, would herself prosper, altho' the Parliament should be removed. It will be still the residence of your Lord Lieutenant; the Seat of Law and Learning; your Courts of Justice; your University must ever flourish; the wealthy manufacturer will no where find his children could receive so polished an education; it will be the gay resort of a *rich and happy People*. I trust, if an Union should take place, the mercantile people of Dublin would find their trade more flourishing, their City more crowded than ever. Who would not wish for the prosperity of that valuable, I will say that glorious Yeomanry, whose loyalty and perseverance, whose vigilance and bravery saved this City from all the horrors of assassination
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and plunder; unshaken in the midst of danger and sedition; their firm intrepidity made the vile assassin's heart to shake, and his half-lifted pike and dagger to fall from his trembling hand; their unwearied exertions supplied the deficiency in numbers of her regular troops; but for them, the bravery of the scattered army would have been in vain. How pleasing also to recollect, with what cheerfulness the English Militia, led on by their brave Nobility and men of property, left their peaceful Country, and every comfort, and flew to save a tottering land, although the hardest task was over before they could advance, still they deserve the *greatest praise*; and their appearance allowed the har-rassed Yeomanry to breathe at times, to lay aside the helmet they had worn, the sword they had wielded, night and day, for months, with all the steadiness of *veteran troops*.

I have now, I hope, to those that have followed me with candour and attention, proved that the prosperity, the security, and happiness of Britain and Ireland never can be separated; therefore, the more close the connection, the firmer the Union the better for both Countries.

Countries. Oh! thou rash, thou cruel man, I had almost said thou fiend, that dares to raise a spirit of distrust and hatred betwixt them. It was such violence, such delusion as this, that caused all the miseries, so lately experienced, to burst out. Such violence that will more effectually destroy your Country than all the invasions, the contributions of France. Ye Sons of Ireland——ye Yeomenry of Dublin, with whom so much learning, wealth, and bravery are united, listen, *O listen* to the voice of Reason; hear how she loudly calls from *Britain's Shores*, her words are these: “Look not, O fair IERNE, to thy sister-isle with such eyes of hatred and distrust; spurn her not off with such malicious rancour and contempt. Behold she extends her arms, she intreats your confidence---your friendship: She, with sincerity, acknowledges---she offers you her hand, with a *hope* that *you* and *she* may be enabled to stand firm and erect amidst the dashing waves, the raging storms that surround you. The British Lion will be heard to roar, but only to terrify your enemies, and her enemies; to protect your trade, and her trade; to increase your glory, and her glory; to *secure your peace*. Hand in hand, you will brave *every danger*,
and

and beat off *every foe*; then will the Lion couch, the Harp be *struck*, and Britain, reclining over the watchful guardian of you both, will listen, with complacent smiles, to thy *melodious strains*. Then shall thy happy Sons and Daughters, with busy hands and fostering care, rear and entwine the ROSE the SHAM-ROCK, and the THISTLE, and raise the grateful song of happy, happy, happy Union."

FINIS.



